

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 /100 W

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R 271944Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5415

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 234

US MISSION GENEVA 381

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SUMMARY. MILITARY JUNTA INTERVENED ADDITIONAL ELEVEN UNIONS AND ARRESTED SEVERAL OTHER MAJOR LABOR LEADERS. ORIT SEC GEN ETCHEVERRY WAS IN BUENOS AIRES TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND INFO ON SITUATION. SOME LABOR LEADERS ARE NOW CALLING FOR INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS TO DENCOUNCE GOA VIOLATIONS OF TRADE UNION FREEDOMS. END SUMMARY.

1. MINLABOR INTERVENED ADDITIONAL ELEVEN UNIONS APRIL 27, BRINGING TOTAL NUMBER INTERVENED TO TWENTY-EIGHT. LEADERS WERE DISMISSED AND MILITARY ASSUMED CONTROL OF FOLLOWING UNIONS: LIGHT & POWER FEDERATION (FED LUZ & FUERZA); FEDERAL CAPTIAL LOCCAL OF LUZ & FUERZA; MUNICIPAL WORKERS UNION (UOEM); BANK WORKERS ASSOCIATION (AB); RAILWAY WORKERS UNION (UF); GRAPHIC WORKERS UNION (SGA); STATE GAS WORKERS FEDERATION (FAPGE); FEDERAL CAPITAL LOCAL OF STATE GAS WORKERS; CERAMIC WORKERS FEDERATION(FOCRA); VILLA ADELINA LOCAL OF CERAMIC WORKERS; AND PHARMACY WORKERS FEDERATION (FATF).

2. ARRESTS OF ADDITIONAL MAJOR LABOR LEADERS WERE CARRIED OUT DURING PAST WEEK. NEW DETAINEES INCLUDE BANK WORKERS ASSOCIA-  
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TION SEC GEN JUAN ESQUERRA, RAILWAY WORKERS (UF) PRESIDENT AND

NATIONAL CONGRESSMAN ESTEBAN ROLANDO AND TELEGRAPH WORKERS (AATRA) SUBSEC GEN ABEL CUCHETTI. TO DATE MILITARY HAS GIVEN NO INDICATION AS TO FINAL ACTION TO BE TAKEN AGAINST ARRESTED LABOR LEADERS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE NOW SPENT OVER ONE MONTH ON PRISON SHIP.

3. ORIT SEC GEN JULIO ETCHEVERRY IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART BUENOS AIRES TODAY (APRIL 27) AFTER HAVING REVIEWED SITUATION WITH SEVERAL LABOR LEADERS. LABATT MET WITH ETCHEVERRY PRIOR TO HIS DISCUSSIONS, BUT WAS UNABLE TO SEE HIM FOLLOWING THOSE DISCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, AN ORIT AFFILIATED EX-CGT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER TOLD LABATT APRIL 26 THAT HE HAD ADVISED ETCHEVERRY THAT HE FELT ORIT AND ICFTU HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO ISSUE STRONG DENUNCIATION OF MILITARY JUNTA ACTS AGAINST TRADE UNIONS.

4. COMMENT. WITH INTERVENTION LUZ & FUERZA, RAILWAY UNION AND BANK ASSOCIATION, ALL MAJOR UNIONS, WITH EXCEPTION COMMERCIAL WORKERS, HAVE NOW BEEN INTERVENED. INTERVENTIONS THOSE UNIONS CLEAR INDICATION THAT MILITARY DOES NOT PLAN HONOR PRE-GOLPE AGREEMENTS TO WORK WITH LEADERS OF MAJOR UNIONS. LABATT WAS ADVISED THAT AN ADDITIONAL 19 UNIONS WERE ON MILITARY LIST TO BE INTERVENED, AND THAT MANY IF NOT ALL WILL PROBABLY BE INTERVENED SHORTLY. ALTHOUGH LEADERS OF UNIONS STILL NOT INTERVENED DO NOT WISH INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE TO BE BROUGHT INTO PLAY AT THIS TIME THOSE ALREADY INTERVENED ARE NOW ACTIVELY SEEKING OUTSIDE SUPPORT. AS MANY OF THOSE INTERVENED ARE AFFILIATES OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS AND TRADE SECRETARIATS, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT INTERNATIONAL OPPOSITION TO MILITARY ACTS AGAINST TRADE UNIONS WILL BE STEPPED UP WITHIN NEAR TIMEFRAME.  
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## Message Attributes

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